

## ***Utah AOP***

### **1.1 Management of Wild Fire**

- 1.1.1** The jurisdictional agency responsible for the fire will involve all neighboring jurisdictions in decisions to manage a wildfire that could cross property where ecological restoration is the desired outcome; the jurisdictional agency will assume responsibility for suppression costs unless agreed to otherwise in a **cost share agreement**. In cases where there are multiple management objectives, a **cost share agreement** will be negotiated on a case by case basis.
- 1.1.2** All adjacent agencies will work together to identify the **cost sharing methodologies** that will be utilized should the fire spread to a neighboring jurisdictions.
- 1.1.3** The underlying intent of management of fires is to prevent their spread on to a jurisdiction that does not want it. All agencies need to be involved in developing strategies and tactics to be used to prevent fires from burning where they are not wanted. Where agreement cannot be reached regarding plans to keep the fire from crossing property boundaries, the discussion will be elevated to the next level agency administrators representing each party.
- 1.1.4** The following examples demonstrate **how costs might be apportioned** in different situations

**Example 1:** A wildland fire managed for a long duration event starts on a Federal jurisdiction, and burns onto private lands under the protection of the State. The State has the responsibility to respond to the fire on private lands. If the adjoining agencies have not been involved in suppression tactics and mitigation discussions the costs will be the responsibility of the federal agencies. The same would hold true for the State.

Example 2: A wildland fire burns onto multiple jurisdictions. **A cost share will be negotiated** by unit administrators to determine costs that may be shared among agencies. For example: If Divisions A–C, have protection only objectives costs would be shared among jurisdictional agencies. If Divisions D and E are managed for restoration objectives on Federal lands and burns onto private land, costs would be billed to the Federal Agency. If Divisions X and Z are managed for restoration objectives on State lands and burns onto Federal land, costs would be billed to the State.

# Nevada AOP

## **Wildland Fire Management:**

The Wildland Fire Leadership Council (WFLC) approved modifications to the “Interagency Strategy for the Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy (2003)” on March 24, 2008. The revisions allow the ability to manage a single wildland fire for one or more objectives and or strategies. Reference Guidance for Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, dated February 13, 2009.

The new guidelines provide for managing individual wildfires providing all wildfire management decisions are consistent with existing Land Management Plan or Resource Management Plan.

The Jurisdictional Agency will be responsible for funding wildland fire and the preparation of the WFDSS. Billing for assistance between federal agencies will follow guidance set in the Cooperative Wildland Fire Protection agreement using the same criteria used in suppression fires.

The jurisdictional agency responsible for the fire will involve all neighboring jurisdictions in decisions to manage a wildfire that could cross property where ecological restoration is the desired outcome; the jurisdictional agency will assume responsibility for suppression costs unless agreed to otherwise in a cost share agreement. In cases where there are multiple management objectives, a cost share agreement will be negotiated on a case by case basis

The following examples demonstrate how costs might be apportioned in different situations

Example 1: A wildland fire managed for multiple resource objectives with no strategy for full suppression starts on a Federal jurisdiction, and escapes onto private lands under the protection of the State. The State has the responsibility to respond to the fire on private lands. The suppression costs will be billed to the Federal Agency, who is the jurisdictional agency.

Example 2: A prescribed fire burning on private industrial forest lands, (the State is the protecting agency) escapes and spreads onto Federal Lands. The Federal agency suppressed the fire on Federal lands, and incurs costs. The suppression costs will be billed to the appropriate State.

Example 3: A wildland fire managed with multiple fire management strategies burns onto multiple jurisdictions. The cost share will be negotiated by unit administrators. For example: If Divisions A–C are being managed under full suppression, costs would be shared among jurisdictional agencies. If Divisions D and E are managed for multiple resource objectives on Federal lands and escape onto private land, costs would be billed to the appropriate Federal Agency.

## **EXHIBIT D**

### **REIMBURSEABLE BILLINGS AND PAYMENTS**

- 3. Cost Share Billings:** Lead agency for cost share negotiation is determined by the selected methodology for cost sharing, i.e. largest percentage of acres burned. Lead agency will be the focus agency for all documentation of that incident. When necessary, the lead agency will schedule a meeting with the other signatories and supporting agencies for a cost share settlement. This meeting will occur prior to billing. All parties will bring their total known costs and backup documentation sufficient to tie the expenditures to the incident to the meeting. The combined federal costs as supported by the necessary backup will be the figure used to determine percentage for adjudicating fiscal responsibility in the billings between the federal agencies and NDF.

Cost share settlements should occur prior to any civil litigation being taken. In those situations where all cooperating agencies who are party to the cost share agreement have collected civil cost recovery or court ordered restitution prior to settlement, those collections will be deducted from those agency costs brought to the settlement. Actions that do not fit given above situation or those addressed in the Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement will be referred to the Nevada Fire Business Working Group (NFBWG). See **Exhibit F** for a cost share agreement template.

Cost share agreements will be completed and distributed **within 10 days** of the incident being declared out.

# Idaho AOP

## 5. Appropriate Management Response (Provision 37 CFPA) now called Management Response

Wildfires that are not human-caused may be managed for multiple objectives as established in land and resource management plans. These areas and the process for fire management in these areas will be documented in local annual operating plans. Adjacent fire protection entities, including state and local government, should be consulted regarding fire management strategies utilized in these areas, and share in the decision making process whenever possible.

All fire agencies have primary responsibility for fire suppression within their respective protection areas. The Agencies intent is to keep a wildfire from burning any lands on which wildfire is not desired within their protection area or from one protection area to another. All Agencies, as appropriate, should be involved in developing the strategy, tactics, and mitigation actions to be used if the fire has the potential to impact another protection area. When the fire spread to another protection area is imminent or appears likely, the Agencies **will identify financial responsibilities and as appropriate, cost share methodologies, and document the decisions and rationale.** If agreement cannot be reached regarding financial responsibilities, discussion will be elevated to the next level agency administrators for the respective agencies.

## 10. Cost Share Agreements (Provision 51 CFPA)

The Agencies agree to use the cost share agreement template and methodologies as provided in Appendix III.

### APPENDIX III Idaho Cost Share Template and Methodologies

Guidelines, templates, and methodologies specific to Idaho for developing cost share agreements can be found in their entirety at:

Northern Rockies Coordinating Group site:

[http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/fire/nrcg/Committees/Business/09\\_IDSAOP\\_CSTemplate.rtf](http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/fire/nrcg/Committees/Business/09_IDSAOP_CSTemplate.rtf)

[http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/fire/nrcg/Committees/Business/09\\_IDSAOP\\_CSMethodology.rtf](http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/fire/nrcg/Committees/Business/09_IDSAOP_CSMethodology.rtf)

Region 4 and the Great Basin Coordinating Group site:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/fire/coop/index.shtml>

From IBMHB;

1. Fire suppression costs shall be determined from the information supplied in this item. There are several ways to determine the best cost share mix. A, B, and C are typically used on smaller, less complex incidents on lands with similar values and uses; D and E on larger, more complex incidents, such as those with both wildland urban interface and wildlands:

A. Each Agency pays for its own resources – fire suppression efforts are primarily on jurisdictional responsibility lands. **Mutual aid at its finest! Be careful with this type of agreement, if the incident is declared a “FEMA incident” the supporting resources will want to be paid. This type of agreement is not good for reimbursement of supporting resources!**

B. Each Agency pays for its own resources – services rendered approximate the percentage of jurisdictional responsibility, but not necessarily performed on those lands. **You order you pay!**

C. Cost share by percentage of ownership or Agency jurisdictional responsibility. **By acres!**

D. Cost is apportioned by geographic division. Examples of geographic divisions are: Divisions A and B (using a map as an attachment); privately owned property with structures; or specific locations such as campgrounds. **Private, State, County lumped into one - to - three divisions, Federal land lump into several divisions.**

*You may have to do a hybrid of this also!* **If you have an in-holding in one division you may have to track resources assigned to the in-holding piece and also assign overhead costs that would support these resources.**

E. Reconciliation of daily estimates (for larger, multi-day incidents). This method relies upon daily agreed to cost estimates, using Incident Action Plans or other means to determine multi-Agency contributions. Reimbursements can be made upon estimates instead of actual bill receipts. **I have not done an agreement using this method before; I have talked about it with the different parties but ended up using a different method.**

Items to consider when negotiating a costs share agreement; **WHY!**

- Fireline Resources: Dozers, engines, fallers, transports, water tenders, hand crews, line overhead, structure protection resources, specialty resources.
- Air Support: Helicopters, (with support) air tankers.
- Fire Camp Operations and Support: Overhead, buses, camp crews, communications, food, refrigerator units, showers, toilets, water trucks, cache supplies, rescue/med, camp facility, mobilization camps, R&R camps,

You have a cost share in place now what?

All cost share agreements need to be reviewed on a daily basis and talked through to ensure the method selected is the most equitable for all parties. Then you have to monitor the assignment of resources to determine when the cost share is no longer needed. Do this with the IC/Team first, then with cooperators.

It is very important that you have an opportunity to review the costs each party will be responsible for several times during the life of the agreement.

